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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SUNBURY-ON-THAMES  
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ANNUAL REPORT  
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of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
-----

1947  
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R. ARNALLT JONES, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

19 47

Chairman: Councillor B.P.Barker

Vice-Chairman: Councillor C.K.Davies

Councillors: P. Bryant, A.A.Bellm, A.E.Cornfield, J. Dill-Smith,  
J.H.Kaye, A.W.Mason, L.W.Osborn, and  
A.H.Balaam (Ex-Officio).

STA FF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

(a) Medical Officer of Health (Part time)

R. Arnallt Jones, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

(b) Sanitary Inspector

T.J.Moore, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

(c) Additional Sanitary Inspector

A.E.Pooley, M.S.I.A.

(d) Student Sanitary Inspector

J.M.Bell, B.Sc.

(e) Clerk: Mrs. O.W.Lukyn.

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# THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SUNBURY-on-THAMES

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	5,689
Population (Estimated by the Registrar-General for 1947)	...	...	...	...	...	21,550
Rateable Value (at 28-2-47)	...	...	...	...	...	£209,299
Product of a 1d rate (March 1947)	...	...	...	...	...	£866

## VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Births</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	407	204	203
Illegitimate	16	8	8
	<u>423</u> (449)	<u>212</u> (246)	<u>211</u> (203)

(Figures in brackets are for the previous year)

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
	226 (202)	127 (107)	99 (95)
<u>Stillbirths</u>	9 (12)	7 (7)	2 (5)

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population

England & Wales 19.6 (21.38)  
20.5 (19.1)

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population

England & Wales 10.48 (9.6)  
12.0 (11.5)  
Stillbirths rate per 1,000 (Live & Still births) 0.41 ... (2.57)

England & Wales 0.50

The first part of the paper is devoted to the study of the properties of the function  $f(x)$  defined by the equation  $f(x) = \int_0^x f(t) dt$ . It is shown that  $f(x)$  is a constant function, and its value is determined by the initial condition  $f(0) = 1$ .

Date	Page	No.	Name
1/1/19	1	1	John Doe
1/2/19	2	2	Jane Smith
1/3/19	3	3	Bob Johnson
1/4/19	4	4	Alice Brown
1/5/19	5	5	Charlie White
1/6/19	6	6	Diana Green
1/7/19	7	7	Eve Black
1/8/19	8	8	Frank Gray
1/9/19	9	9	Grace Hall

The second part of the paper discusses the properties of the function  $g(x)$  defined by the equation  $g(x) = \int_0^x g(t) dt$ . It is shown that  $g(x)$  is a constant function, and its value is determined by the initial condition  $g(0) = 1$ .



### Death rate of Infants

Deaths under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	13 (18)
All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	30.7 (40.08)

The causes of death are recorded in Table 1. It will be noted that two of these deaths were due to Violent Causes.

### Chief Causes of Death in 1947

Cancer	53. (35)	Men	32	Women	21
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Heart Diseases	38 (40)	Men	22	Women	16
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### Of the Deaths registered in 1947

47 were of persons between 60 and 70 years of age  
(29 men and 18 women)

63 were of persons between 70 and 80 years of age  
(38 men and 25 women)

42 were of persons between 80 and 90 years of age  
(21 men and 21 women)

6 were over 90 - 2 men and 4 women.

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### GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

1. Water Supply The water supply of the area is satisfactory both in quantity and quality. Almost all the dwelling houses in the District are supplied from the mains of the various water companies.

The following are the Water Companies serving the area:

- (a) The Metropolitan Water Board - supplies Sunbury, Sunbury Common, Upper Halliford and Charlton.
- (b) The West Surrey Water Company - supplies Shepperton and Littleton.
- (c) The South West Suburban Water Company - supplies Ashford Common.

Stand Pipes are placed opposite Pharoah's Island. A few dwellings on Hamhough Island and many isolated cottages are dependent on shallow wells. The water from these supplies is periodically examined.

2. Drainage and Sewerage The sewage of the District is treated at the Sewage Disposal Works at Mogden. Cesspools are still in use on some premises. In a few instances, privies, pails and earth closets are in use.





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5th. August. 1948.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health 1947.

CORRECTION; Please note in paragraph on "Diphtheria" Immunisation Total for  
1st. Jan. to 30th June should read "135" not 119.

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5th. August. 1948.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health 1947.

CORRECTION:

Please note in paragraph on "Diphtheria" Immunisation Total for  
1st. Jan. to 30th June should read "135" not 119.



3. Laboratory Facilities Water, milk, foodstuffs, sputa and swabs, etc., requiring laboratory examination, are sent to the Clinical Research Association, London.

During 1947, the following specimens were dealt with: -

Swabs for Diphtheria	10.	All negative.
Sputa for Tuberculosis	3.	Negative.
1 sample of sausage meat		Unsatisfactory.

Milk.	14 samples taken.
Empty Milk bottles.	6 examined.
Water.	16 samples taken from Shallow wells.
	Two only unsatisfactory.

#### 4. Nursing in the Home

General The Sunbury, Halliford and District Nursing Association maintains by voluntary subscriptions one district Nurse. Her services are appreciated and in continual demand.

The Shepperton and Littleton District Nursing Association also maintains by voluntary subscriptions, a district Nurse, who in addition practices midwifery in that area, by arrangements made with the Middlesex County Council in accordance with the Midwives Act 1936.

Infectious Disease The home nursing of infectious disease is not undertaken by the Local Authority.

Midwives During the year, 5 midwives practised within the area, as follows:

##### Midwives employed in Sunbury by the Middlesex County Council

Feron, Edith M	57 Green Street, Sunbury
James, E.G.P.	Bahram, Chertsey Road, Feltham
Gridley, Muriel E	117 Ashridge Way, Sunbury

##### Midwife employed by the Shepperton & Littleton District Nursing Association

Greeno, J.L.	Sherbourne, Crescent Road, Shepperton.
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##### Midwife resident in Sunbury

Jones, Edith R.	73 Manor Lane, Sunbury
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## 5. Nursing Homes

<u>Proprietor</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>No. of beds registered</u>	<u>No. of Matern- ity beds</u>
Mrs. M. Blamey and Mrs. D. Jones	Sunbury Nursing Homes West Lodge, Weir House, Montford House	61	-
Miss E.R. Jones	"Plas Gwyn" 73 Manor Lane, Sunbury	1	1

## 6. Hospital Accommodation

Hospital accommodation for Infectious Disease is provided at the Staines Isolation Hospital.

## 7. Ambulance Facilities

For infectious cases, patients are removed in the ambulance provided by the Isolation Hospital, from their homes to the hospital.

For non-infectious and accident cases, the Council's Ambulance was called out, during 1947, as follows:

Accidents	171	Illness	345	Maternity	28
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a total of 544 journeys and 6,150 miles.

## 8. The School Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Services are operated by the Middlesex County Council.

These services provide the District with four Welfare Centres, three School Clinics and Three Dental Clinics.

## 9. The Day Nursery in High Street, Shepperton, provides accommodation for 50 children under 5 years of age. It is under the control of the Middlesex County Council.

This Nursery is intended primarily for the children of mothers in employment, though under special circumstances other children are admitted for short periods.





## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Diphtheria      There were no cases.      One "suspected" case of Diphtheria was notified but was subsequently found to be suffering from Tonsillitis.

Polio-myelitis      (Infantile Paralysis)      Two cases only. Both sent to hospital.

Meningitis      One case of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.      Sent to Hospital.

Scarlet Fever      31 cases notified.      6 cases nursed at home, the others being sent to Hospital.

Pneumonia      Two cases were notified.

Whooping Cough      51 cases.      There were three deaths.

Measles      97 cases.      No deaths.

Chickenpox      46 cases.

Scabies      Treatment for Scabies is given at the Spelthorne Clinic, Chertsey Road, Ashford Common (by arrangement with the Middlesex County Council) twice a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays between the hours of 5 and 8 p.m.

During 1947, 134 persons were treated.      (264 in 1946)

Polio-myelitis      Though numerous cases occurred in neighbouring Districts, this District was singularly fortunate. For a few months, school sports, operations for Tonsils and Adenoids and Dental extractions were restricted

Diphtheria Immunisation.      The yearly returns sent to the Ministry of Health were as follows:

	<u>Under 5</u>	<u>5 to 14</u>	<u>Total</u>
1st January to 30th June 1947	110	25	119
1st July to 31st December 1947	139	54	193

Number of children who were given a secondary or reinforcing injection during the year      --      370





DEATHS IN 1947 CLASSIFIED BY AGES AND CAUSES

TABLE 1

Diseases	All ages	Under 1 yr	1 -2	3-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	21-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	Over 65
4. Whooping Cough	3	1		1	1								
6. Tuberculosis of res.sys.	9	1					1		3	2	1	1	1
8. Syphilitic diseases.	1											1	6
9. Influenza	8					1						1	
12. Ac.inf.enceph.	1											1	
13. Cancer of buc.cav.& oesoph (m), uterus (f)	8									1	1		6
14. Cancer of stomach & duodenum	7										1		6
15. Cancer of breast	3												3
16. Cancer all other sites.	35									4	10	5	16
18. Intracranial vascular lesions	22									2		3	17
19. Heart Diseases	38								1		3	4	30
20. Other dis.of cir.system.	20										2	2	16
21. Bronchitis	9										3	1	5
22. Pneumonia	12									1			11
23. Other resp.diseases	1												1
25. Diarrhoea under 2 yrs.	1	1											
26. Appendicitis	-												
27. Other digve.dis.	8											2	6
28. Nephritis	5							1		1	1		2
30. Maternal causes	1								1				
31. Premature birth	3	3											
32. Con.mal.birth inj.Infant dis.	5	5											
34. Road traffic accidents	1											1	
35. Other violent causes	4	2										1	1
36. All other causes.	21									3		5	13
ALL CAUSES	226	13		1	1	1	1	1	5	14	22	27	140

Note: There were no deaths in the following groups: (1)Typhoid & parat.fever; (2)Cerebro-spinal fever; (3)Scarlet Fever;(5)Diphtheria; (7)Other forms of T.B.; (10)Measles; (11)Ac.Polio-myel. & polio-enceph; (17)Diabetes; (24)Ulcer of stomach or duodenum; (26)Appendicitis; (29)Puer.& post-abortion.sepsis; (33)Suicide.





TUBERCULOSIS 1947

TABLE 2

Age Periods Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pul M	F	Non-Pul.		Pul M	F	Non-Pul	
			M	F			M	F
Under 1 year		1				1		
5 - 10	2	4						
11 - 15	1	-						
16 - 20	2	2				1		
21 - 25	5	3						
26 - 35	6	1			2	1		
36 - 45	2	2			1	1		
46 - 55	1	-			1	-		
56 - 65	-	-			1	-		
65 & upwards		1						
TOTALS	19	14			5	4	-	-

Number of cases who have moved into the District during 1947:  
9

Number of cases who have moved to other Districts during 1947:  
4

Number of cases removed from the Register as "Recovered";  
4



FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS - FACTORIES ACT 1937  
(Section 128 (3))

TABLE 3

The following tables are on the lines of those issued by the Home Office, so far as they affect this District, showing particulars of inspections, etc.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	20	20	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	65	43	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (ex- cluding out-workers' premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	85	63	-	-
=====				





TABLE 3

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Insp.	No. of cases in which pros- ecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	2	2	-	1	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>1</b>	
=====					

3. OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)

NIL.



## GENERAL REPORT FOR 1947

This Annual Report includes a Table in connection with the duties of the Department under Parts I and VIII of the Factories Act, 1937.

In comparison with the previous year, there have been fewer births and more deaths. While the Birth Rate is slightly less than that for England and Wales, the Death Rate is also less.

The Death Rate of Infants under 1 year is lower this year and is less than that for England and Wales. One child under 2 years died from Diarrhoea.

Cancer, this year, supersedes Heart Disease as the chief cause of death. Too much significance should not be attached to this finding.

The District has been free from serious epidemics. A number of mild cases of Scarlet Fever, Measles, Whooping Cough and Chicken Pox were recorded but there were no cases of Smallpox or Enteric Fever.

For the third successive year, there were no cases of Diphtheria among the civilian population. Every effort is made to immunize children in their first year and to give them 'boosting' doses at 5 and 10 years of age. Few parents, if any, can be unaware of the facilities available. In parts of the District very few children remain unprotected: in the District as a whole, 70 per cent of children under 5 years have been immunized.

The building programme has been pressed forward energetically and the Council has devoted every care to the difficult task of allocation. Demands for accommodation are being continually received to replenish and augment the waiting list. When these demands have been satisfied, many substandard and unsatisfactory dwellings, some of them under consideration before the War, will require attention.

The Thames floods in March and April were the worst since 1894 and will long be recalled. Many dwellings on the islands and along the river banks in the District were inundated. Families were marooned, amphibious craft effected rescues and transported supplies of food. Shelter, and drying facilities were made available through the kindness and co-operation of local people, voluntary associations and business houses. Occupiers of affected premises were advised to boil all water before consumption. Further precautionary measures included the sampling and analysis of water supplies from shallow wells, and the provision of soaps and disinfectants for cleansing purposes. Repercussions in the form of infectious disease were not experienced.

During the year, the Department was faced with an unusual problem - the nuisance from two disused waterlogged gravel pits which were in the process of being filled with building rubble, clinker, metal ware and some vegetable matter. The nuisance was caused by the evolution of Hydrogen Sulphide produced by the action of certain bacteria on Sulphates in the tipping material. Energetic steps were taken to combat the nuisance: tipping was accelerated and controlled, and, as a palliative measure Chloride of Lime in large quantities was distributed regularly over the pools.







Staff            The opportunity is taken of recording that in April 1947, Dr. Alexander Urquhart retired from the post of Medical Officer of Health. He had held this post since the Amalgamation in 1930 and though he could have retired earlier, he continued with his duties through the arduous War years.

In conclusion acknowledgement is gratefully made to Mr. Moore and his assistants for their co-operation and to Mrs. Lukyn for her valuable assistance in compiling this report.

R. ARNALLT JONES.

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department  
Council Offices,  
Sunbury-on-Thames  
July, 1948.

